

## STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS29503 / S1320

The purpose of this legislation prospectively is to shift the presumption of the law regarding adult adoptee access to birth records from a presumption of closure to one of openness while simultaneously improving the opportunity for the interests of both adoptees and birth parents to be appropriately represented and balanced. The use of our existing voluntary adoption registry allows the State of Idaho to offer a service, acting as an intermediary between participating adoptees and their birth parents to facilitate a private and direct communication including the opportunity for a birth parent to request a preferred method of contact, no contact, or request the redaction of their name from birth records prior to the release of those records. It allows adoptees, who are adopted on or after July 1, 2022 to access birth records, once they are 18 years of age. It will also allow the Department of Vital Statistics to create an indicator on the face of the certificate accurately identifying the relationship of the legal parents named on the certificate to the child.

## FISCAL NOTE

From this change in statute there is no fiscal impact to the General Fund, any dedicated fund, federal grants, or impacts to local funds because no expenditure from these accounts is required.

### Contact:

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**DISCLAIMER:** This statement of purpose and fiscal note are a mere attachment to this bill and prepared by a proponent of the bill. It is neither intended as an expression of legislative intent nor intended for any use outside of the legislative process, including judicial review (Joint Rule 18).